

ANNEXURE B

AGENDA 3 - Annual Report 2007

1) Introduction

At the beginning of January 2007, the Association's membership stood at 64 members (41 Full members, 21 Associate members and 2 Individual members) while the opening balance of its funds stood at USD 198,300.92.

At the XXII Executive Board Meeting, the following applications were admitted. The institutional applications were approved to begin its membership from 1 January, 2008.

- Inner Mongolia Radio & TV University, China
- Hanyang Cyber University, Korea
- Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning, India

As of 31 December, 2007 the total membership stood at 64 (41 Full members, 21 Associate members and 2 Individual members) and the closing balance stood at a healthy USD 209,553.86.

2) AAOU 2007 Annual Conference

The XXI AAOU Annual Conference was successfully hosted by Open University Malaysia, Malaysia from October 29-31, 2007 at the Putrajaya Marriott Hotel, Putrajaya under the theme "*Empowering Asia through Partnerships in Open and Distance Education*".

A total of 288 delegates from 23 countries and regions attended the conference.

Dato' Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of Higher Education in Malaysia officially opened the 21st AAOU Annual Conference on 29 October, 2007. Prof. Anuwar Ali, Chairman of the conference organizing committee and President of Open University Malaysia, Prof. Ge Daokai, President of AAOU and Dato' Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of Higher Education gave the opening speech respectively. Sir John Daniel, President and CEO of Commonwealth of Learning, Prof. Dr. Atwi Suparman, Rector of Universitas Terbuka, Prof. John C. Y. Leong, President of the Open University of Hong Kong and Prof. Shao Nan, Former President of Yunnan Radio & TV University delivered the keynote speeches.

The Conference received 170 abstracts, 114 full papers eventually. For the Best Paper Awards, the gold medal was awarded to I Chang Fengyan, Yin Shuangxu, Zhang Fenglong and Liu Dailin from China Central Radio & TV University. Their paper is

known as: Establishing a Mechanism for Collecting Feedback on the Quality of Distance Education. One silver medal was awarded to Wu Bing from Shanghai TV University and Teoh Ai Ping from Wawasan Open University. Their paper is entitled: A Comparative Analysis of Learners Interaction in the Learning Management System of Shanghai TV University and Wawasan Open University: Does National Culture Matters? The other silver awardee was Yang Xiaotang from China Central Radio & TV University. His paper is named as: The Study and Practice of Web-based Learning Assessment in Open and Distance Education.

We wish to record our thanks to the following persons who served on various adjudication and selection committees.

a. Members of Selection Committee of AAOU Meritorious Service Award

- Chair:

Dato' Prof. Emeritus Gajaraj Dhanarajan (Vice Chancellor & CEO of Wawasan Open University, Malaysia)

- Members:

Prof. Alireza Ali-Ahmadi (Chancellor, Payame Noor University, Iran)

Prof. See-Won Chang (President, Korea National Open University, Korea)

Dr. Pratyva Vesarach (Rector, Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University, Thailand)

b. Members of Selection Committee of AAOU Best Paper Award

- Chair:

Professor Asha Kanwar (Vice President of Commonwealth of Learning) represented by Sir John Daniel

- Members:

Prof. Nandani de Silva (Vice-Chancellor of the Open University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka)

Prof. Gong Xiangguo (Vice President of Zhejiang Radio & TV University, China)

AAOU Secretariat thanks the organizing committee of the Conference for their efforts and excellent job in hosting the 2007 AAOU Conference.

3) Sponsorship for AAOU 2007

AAOU contributed a sum of USD 3,000 to meet the costs of the holding of the Executive Committee Meeting, the General Board Meeting and the XXI Annual Conference. COL has contributed a sum of CND 5,000 to support delegates from Commonwealth Asian countries (India, Malaysia and Sri Lanka) and UNESCO contributed a sum of USD 2,000 to support participants from Philippines, Papua New Guines, Turkey and Hungary to enable their participations in the Conference.

4) Inter-University Staff Exchange Scheme

For the year 2007, Korea National Open University, Korea (KNOU), Beijing Radio & TV University, China (BRTVU) joined the scheme.

We would like to appeal to all the AAOU members to support and enhance this program by offering one or more fellowship so that this program would continue to encourage more members to be contributors for exchange of ideas, experience and practice for better relationship.

5) Election of new presidency and new executive board members for the period 2008-2010

(1) 1 institute was nominated as candidate for the next term AAOU President and Secretariat office.

--Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia

Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia was elected for the new Presidential institute (Rector of UT Prof. Atwi Suparman addressed an acceptance speech.)

(2) 8 Institutes were nominated for the new executive board members candidates.

They are:

- Beijing Radio & TV University, China
 - Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University, India
 - Korea National Open University, Korea
 - National Open University, Taiwan, China
 - Open University Malaysia, Malaysia
 - Payame Noor University, Iran
 - The Open University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka
 - The University of the Philippines Open University, Philippines
- (China Central Radio & TV University, China automatically be in EB)

The New Executive Board member institutes elected for the next term are as followed:

- Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia (newly elected Presidential institute)
- China Central Radio & TV University, China (Immediate Past Presidential Institute)
- Beijing Radio & TV University, China
- Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University, India
- Korea National Open University, Korea
- Open University Malaysia, Malaysia
- Payame Noor University, Iran

--The University of the Philippines Open University, Philippines

Congratulations!

5) Conclusion

The Secretary-General wishes to record her sincere thanks to the President for his guidance and support and to all the Executive Board and General Board members for their co-operation and endeavors. It is a pleasure to record big thanks to Prof. Sir John Daniel (COL) as well as Dr. Sheldon Shaeffer (UNESCO-PROAP) for their sustained supports.

The Board is requested to consider and adopt this report.